and any minor damage may cause the pod to drop, or entire locks of seed may be lost. Remove a few leaves adjacent to the pod stem, but do not pinch out the tip or terminal of the branch.

Plants to be used as seeders should be deprived of excess nitrogen and given moderately heavy applications of plant food high in phosphoric acid and potash. (These are the second and third numbers in the fertilizer formula, the first being nitrogen.) Wilson & Toomer's Bloommaster 2-12-12 is very good. The foregoing applies to a plant that is in excellent condition. Do not water plants excessively, so as to slow excessive foliar growth.

Check all pods at frequent intervals. They should mature in about 40 days. Note the gradual change from green to yellow, and the faster change to brown. At the yellow stage some folks use a strip of Scotch Tape around the pod to prevent the loss of seeds. Others have used old Bull Durham tobacco bags (say, where have they gone to?) Others just watch 'em twice a day. Harvest before the pod completely opens, as seed can be lost on the ground. This is preferably in the afternoon when the pod is dry. If they should get wet, dry them in the shade before storing. Match boxes make good airy storage containers. Write on the box the names of the parents of the cross with the female one first, the date pollenated, the date picked, the serial number from your "Stud Book" also the number of seeds that were in that pod. Your pods will produce about 10 seeds on an average. and 46 is somewhat of a record. (No, it wasn't in Texas.)

Store in a safe dry cool place. Beware of mice and grandchildren. Decide which ones you are going to send to the SEED BANK for Dave Donaldson to distribute.

The PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS are being prepared, and will appear soon. Good luck.

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HIBISCUS IN NORTH FLORIDA - Edna Wells

Why do we fool with this pesky flower?
The one that brightens every bower -
It flaunts its colors - reds, pinks, yellows
And shouts defiance at the other fellows.
And then when show time comes around,
The bugs have first the blossoms found,
Or rain has smashed them to the ground.
Stripped they are when the wind blows hard,
Frozen are they if frost hits the yard.
But at the coming of spring ones heart leaps and glows
At the first green leaf and bud that shows.
Why do we fool with these pesky flowers?
Why do we nurse them thru sun and showers?
Because their bright colors and faces so gay
Help to enliven and make joyous each day.
And each little blossom with its petals unfurled
Says "God's in His Heaven - all's right with the world".

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TENTATIVE SHOW DATES

Sunrise	May 28th
Jacksonville	September 10th
Putnam County	September 17th
Ridge	September 24th
Halifax	October 1st
Vero Beach	October 8th
Sunset	October 15th
Norman Reasoner	October 22nd
Gulf Coast	October 29th

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